State of Connecticut
Department of Developmental Services

Ned Lamont
Governor

Jordan A. Scheff
Commissioner

Elisa F. Velardo
Deputy Commissioner

Minutes of April 17, 2023 - ARPA Individual and Family Engagement Transformational Committee

Location: Meeting held Virtually via Microsoft Teams

In attendance: Greg McMahon, Shannon Jacovino, Adrianna Ramirez, Dr. Cheryl Ellis, Kevin Arce, Geri Kogut, Pat Tyler, Lena Esposito, Maricruz Ortiz

Absent: Jessica Sundell, Denise Palladino, Joanne Malise

Guests: Kimberly Butts, Maura Fitzgerald (McDowell), Rebecca Brockway (McDowell), Lauren Gray (DDS), Owen Shome (Deloitte)

1. Call to Order by Greg McMahon. Public Meeting Requirements were reviewed.

2. Minutes from previous meeting were approved.

3. Deloitte – no update.

4. McDowell Update
   - A flyer will be released in the last week of April announcing May STEP forums. It will first be released DDS staff, ARPA committees, providers, individuals & families, and other stakeholders. It will be sent via snail mail to individuals and legal representatives.
   - Forums - DDS leadership and subject experts will provide more detail about STEP and allow for a Q&A on Community Companion Home (CCH), Supportive Housing, Individualized Home, Support (IHS), Assistive Technology, Remote Support, Employment, Self-Direction. Looking to answer questions raised in
   - A newsletter will go out in June.

5. Service Description Review – the committee was asked for feedback on making descriptions understandable, clear, broad, and general. These will be part of a package that includes videos. The goal is to have these done by the forums. The following service descriptions were reviewed: Supportive Housing, Remote Supports, Self-Direction, and Community Companion Homes.
   - Questions & feedback
     - Adding too many terms may make things confusing.
     - "Easy access to transportation" was clarified to "public transportation"
     - ? about adding nursing to Supported Housing under challenges. Not necessary. Nursing would be offered by a nursing agency, based on individual need.
     - Important to review all descriptions to be sure to use consistent, standard terminology on each on.

- ➢ For Remote Supports, use same sentence that was used in Individualized Support description to highlight Remote Supports can be combined with Assistive Technology and Individualized Home Supports.
- ➢ Remote Supports Challenges Suggestions: "learning how to use equipment" "language capacity of technology
- ➢ Question: Does DDS have a standard list of equipment?

6. Updates and topics for future meetings - none

7. Announcement of next meeting- Monday, May 1, 2023 10:00 am

6. Adjournment